

BY CRANSTON & NORMAN,
157 THAMES STREET.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPT. 18, 1859.

Since the publication of Bayard Taylor's \$500 prize song for Jenny Lind, we have watched our exchanges, with a good deal of curiosity, to see what opinion could be expressed upon its merits. But, as far as we have observed, not a single word has been uttered on the subject. In fact, the song has fallen perfectly still, from the press. We are not astonished that nothing has been said in its praise, because it is utterly devoid of merit. The prize offered was a liberal one for a poem of sixteen lines, and the occasion of a good deal of merriment from which a poet could work up a really good song. But it has not been done; there are two or three good thoughts in the production, but taken as a whole, it is very feeble.

It is carefully written, and but little regard is paid to Lindley Murray, or any other grammatical authority; as a mere specimen of English composition, it is faulty throughout. For instance, he says,

Where the souls of the mighty from slumber awake

And follow the soil for whose freedom they died.

We have always been taught, from our earliest days, that the body, only, dies, and that the soul is immortal; but Bayard Taylor says that the souls of our nation died, and that they are now awakening from slumber to follow the soil.

We do not pretend to be infallible authority on the subject; it may be that the Revolutionary struggle was so severe, that it killed the souls as well as the bodies of our fathers.

Thou Cradle of Empire though wide be the field

Thou cradles the land of my father and thee,

I hear from thy bosom the welcome of home,

For long has a home in the hearts of the free.

We do not comprehend this verse, exactly; neither do we think that it is true that long has a home in the hearts of the free.

only, as intimated in the last line, because some of the most degraded and fearful down-trodden nations of the old world have been most famous for song.

It is said that the Committee received 700 copies, and they have pronounced Bayard Taylor the best of that number; they were either a great deal of favoritism shown in this matter, or else they had produced from 700 poor ones, who ought to be sent to the insane Asylum for attempting to double in rhyme. We suspect that the former was the case; and for these reasons:—

Bayard Taylor is one of the editors of the Tribune, and it was an important item for him to have his foot laid on the ground in the city, because that paper would then be sold, body and soul, to Jenny Lind's Concert.

The first man on that committee was George Ripley, also an editor of the Tribune, and a friend of Taylor's;—he, of course, knew Taylor's hand-writing; it was not his eye upon the copy, or he would naturally think that his friend's song was better than that of any other man.

Bayard Taylor has made several looks, and George P. Putnam is his publisher.

Putnam was also a member of the Committee, and he would know Taylor's writing, as soon as he saw it. It was important for him, as Taylor's publisher, that the latter should obtain the prize, because Putnam supposed it would add to Taylor's reputation, and probably help the sale of his books, which was an important item for Putnam. Willis Gaylord Clarke was another member of the Committee; he did not care a fig who got the prize so long as it was not awarded to George P. Putnam, who generally takes all prizes that are offered for songs, because he, Clarke, and Morris are bitter enemies. Jules Bonedé is a foreigner who accompanies Jenny Lind, and who had no interest in the matter, either way, and was not competent to judge of the merits of a song in the English language. The other member of the Committee was J. S. Redfield, about whose interest in the matter we know nothing, except that he is a book publisher, and is probably was willing to put Taylor, as an editor, under some little obligation to him.

The public generally, we presume, know nothing about these little circumstances; but when they are read, they will naturally create a smile, as they will, in a measure, explain why a better song was not obtained for Barnum's \$200. Let the other \$500 songs be published, and then the public can judge whether, in all respects, the prize was fairly awarded to Bayard Taylor, because he really wrote the best one.

We are indebted to the Hon. Geo. G. King and the Hon. Nathan F. Dixon, for valuable Public Documents.

If a certain point at the Bellevue House, from New York, has any more questions, to ask in regard to our dining room, he had better call at this office and ask them; and he shall be answered in a manner that will teach him the decency and propriety of life, and in a manner too, that he will long remember.

The Montserrat's excursion to Block Island, on Saturday last, was one of the pleasantest of the season; she is a fine boat and has some of that jar and quivering motion which most steamboats of her size have, her engine, being a very powerful one, it drives her through rough water with perfect ease, and without any perceptible motion. This fine steamer has been made a favorite with all who have made an excursion in her. Capt. Allan, who is every way worthy of the command of such a boat, is always at his post, assisted by Mr. Bourne the courteous, and gentlemanly clerk; they are ever ready to answer all enquiries of the passengers in a polite and agreeable manner; they are both worthy the confidence and esteem of the travelling or pleasure-seeking public. For speed, comfort and safety, the Montserrat has no superior; she made the passage from Newport to Block Island in two hours, anchoring off the island at 12 o'clock, the passengers were conveyed on shore from the steamer by small boats and skiffs which, with the barren and uncivilized appearance of the island, and the joy and gladness expressed in every countenance, gave it the appearance of the landing of the Pilgrims. After all were safely landed, the company went in pursuit of something to eat, of which they soon found an abundance. The first house you come to in going from the landing place is the residence of Nathaniel G. Smith, Esq., a worthy gentleman well known for integrity and urbanity of manners. This house is a new large two story one, built in modern style and is the finest house on the island; it stands upon a hill and commands a view of the largest portion of the island, from whence a splendid panorama presents the sight, embracing a vast extent of the ocean and the land; the house is furnished with modern furniture, in a handsome and comfortable manner, for the accommodation of boarders. Mr. Greene, son-in-law of Mr. Smith, has charge of the house; he spared no pains for the enjoyment of his guests; most of the company partook of a sumptuous dinner at this house, and all were surprised to meet with such a hearty reception. May the reader have no worse luck than to lodge under this canopy. As the writers of advertisements would say, "those who are in want, &c., would do well to call."

After dinner was over the company roamed about the island, some went to see the great pond which contains over 1000 acres, and is from 60 to 70 feet deep; others went to Pilot hill, which is about one mile from the shore, and commands a view of the entire island. At 2 o'clock the company embarked and proceeded home; the passage homeward was enlivened by the passengers' description of the island and its wonders; one gentleman gave an amusing account of his passage from the steamer to the shore; he said that he gave an Islander a quarter to take his fare from, which was ten cents; the Islander put it in his pocket and told the gentleman that he had no change and asked him if he would not take the change in dry fish, whereupon he demanded back the quarter, but it could not be found, as the Islander put it into his pocket where he kept his fish hooks, slivers and parched corn. The company arrived safe home in good season and in excellent spirits, well pleased with the excursion; the Island, the Islanders, and, at the same time, glad to get home again.

Home Missions.—John Adams, ex-President of the United States, being called upon for a contribution for Foreign Missions, said:—"I have nothing to give for that purpose; but there are in this vicinity, six ministers, not one of whom will preach in this other's pulpit—now I will give as much as any one else, and more, to civilize these clergymen."

There are two girls down East who are such great friends to each other, that they not only dress always alike, and always eat the same kind of food, but they both love the same beau.

It is said that Barnum is endeavoring to engage Lord Brougham, who is expected to arrive in about a month. He will come just in time to catch the popular wave just as it begins to subside from Jenny Lind.

A sore-footed pedestrian, travelling in Ireland, met a man, and asking him, rather gruffly, why the miles were so plucky long when the Hibernian replied: "You see, yer honer, the roads are not in good condition, so we give very good measure."

An orator in the House of Commons was describing the inordinate love of praise which characterized an opponent. "The honorable member," said he, "is so fond of being praised, that I really believe he would be content to give up the ghost, if it were but to look and read the stone-cutter's puff on his tombstone."

BY TELEGRAPH.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Sept. 16.
SENATE.—Mr. Dickinson reported to the Senate the civil and diplomatic bill, and moved that it be made the special order for Wednesday next and every day thereafter until it is disposed of, which was agreed to.

Mr. Bright introduced a joint resolution respecting the public printing.

Several additional bills were introduced for the benefit of California.

Numerous reports of committees were received and resolutions introduced.

The business in view of the near adjournment, is progressing rapidly.

Mr. Pratt introduced a bill to prevent the enticement of slaves from their owners.

Mr. Fremont's bill was so amended as to authorize the appointment of Indian agents for California, and passed.

Mr. Hamilton noticed the Senate that he should move for an executive session at one o'clock.

House.—Mr. Bayley reported the army bill, and moved that army and navy bills, also the Mexican indemnity bill, be ordered for to-morrow, and daily thereafter until disposed of, which was agreed to.

Mr. Hall introduced, under suspension of the rules, a bill prohibiting the computation of compound interest on the Virginia claims.

Mr. Bayley spoke against it with great feeling, and moved to lay it on the table.—Ruled out.

Mr. Hall explained the bill. The year on engrossment were ordered, when Mr. Bayley moved to lay it on the table. The vote is now pending.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.

Official letters have been received here from the Mexican boundary commission, dated Indianapolis, Texas, Aug. 31st, which report the health of the party generally well. The commission was to start for the interior on the following day.

7 days later from Europe.

The steamer Canada arrived at Halifax on Monday, bringing the following intelligence:—

ENGLAND.

Her Majesty is still sojourning in the Highlands. The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has commenced a tour of the North, with the view of ascertaining the condition of the agricultural and manufacturing operations of that district.

On Monday last, the Butcher Hayman received a slight indication of the regard which the English people entertain for him. He arrived on Wednesday last, and on Thursday having received a letter of introduction from Baron Haubrich, in which the Baron styles Hayman as his particular friend, he went to visit the brewery of Messrs. Barclay Perkins & Co. Hayman was accompanied by his aid-de-camp and interpreter. According to the regular practice of visitors, they were requested to register their names in a book in the office. After which they crossed the yard with one of the clerks. On inspecting the book, the clerk discovered that one of the visitors was no other than Marshal Hayman, the late commander of the Austrian forces, during the attack upon the unfortunate Hungarians.

It became known all over the Brewery in less than ten minutes, and before the General and his companions had crossed the yard nearly all the laborers and draymen ran out with bread and drink, shouting out, "Down with the Austrian butcher!" and other epithets of an alarming nature to the Marshal. The Marshal, finding that he was likely to get a warm reception from the sturdy brewers, thought prudence the better part of valor, and began to beat a retreat, but this was not so easily done. The attack was commenced by dropping a mass of straw upon his head, after which, grain and missiles of every description were freely bestowed upon him. The men next struck his hat over his eyes and hustled him about in every direction. The Marshal's companions were treated with equal violence. The party finally succeeded in reaching the entrance gate, but no sooner had they made their exit than a crowd of angels who waited upon his Highness, seized upon him. He was pelted, struck with every available missile, and even dragged along by his mustache, which afforded ample facilities from its excessive length. Still battling with his assailants, he ran in a frantic manner along his bank side, until he came to the George public house, where he ran up stairs and concealed himself in a small closet. The furious mob rushed in after him, threatening to do for the Austrian butcher; but fortunately for him they did not succeed in discovering his retreat.

Ultimately the police came to his rescue, and he was removed in a police barge to the other end of the city. This assault has been the subject of comment in nearly all the London and Provincial papers, and whilst the minority agree in condemning the act, still they frankly admit that the presence of so irreproachable a character in England was a provocation great enough to excite even a greater outrage.

The effect which the death of the Ex-King of the French will have on European hostilities has been the theme of much discussion in English papers, and it is generally thought that the event will have the

effect of rousing the latent ambition of the Duke de Nemours. The dispute now pending in the Bourbon family will, it is thought be healed, and a united effort made to place him at the head of the French Republic.

The proceedings of Congress at Washington have also attracted considerable attention, and the engrossment by the Senate of the Fugitive Slave Bill has been strongly condemned.

The crops have been nearly all harvested, and it is now confidently asserted that there will be at least an average crop of grain, and the potato crop is much sounder than was anticipated.

FRANCE.

The President started on Tuesday on another provincial tour.

Some of the Socialist Journals assert that the President is about to change his Ministers, and to call upon M. Deshayes to form a new Cabinet. This report is not credited, however.

DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

Nothing of importance relative to the positions of the armies, or to the settlement of the dispute has transpired this week. It appears that the Russian fleet has formed a line across the Bay of Kiel, have stationed itself with some Danish men-of-war close to the entrance of the harbor, to prevent any of the Holstein gun boats and steamers leaving their present anchorage.

A despatch from Kiel of the 3d, states that the Holstein Diet has been convened by the Schuttholders, to meet at Kiel on Monday, the 9th inst.

THE GERMAN EMPIRE.

A telegraphic despatch from Berlin of the 3d inst. states that the semi official papers of that date announce, that, in consequence of a resolution which the council of Princes agreed to on the 29th ult. all the Governments of the League have initiated the example of Prussia in declining to accept, or assent to the Austrian Federal diet at Frankfurt. Lord Palmerston addressed another note to the Prussian Cabinet, with a view to induce Prussia to join and assist in the protocol of the 2d of July. We find it asserted that this request, too, has been met by a peremptory refusal on the part of Prussia.

AUSTRIA.

Hamburg papers have advices from Vienna of the 29th ult. stating that the Russian Cabinet had resolved to induce the German powers to join a grand Diplomatic Congress to be held at Vienna.

At this Congress the pending question of European policy are to be decided, and a new basis for the system of States is to be established.

The census is nearly completed in Cincinnati, and it is now supposed that will show the population to be near upon 150,000.

A Kentucky editor, strongly opposed to camp meetings, says he has "no notion of camping out on his road to heaven."

SARF. A lady, whose husband was led out to be hanged, having heard that a riot had occurred under the gallows, ran to the scene of action, and on seeing her husband on the scaffold, with a rope adjusted, and enquiring, "Oh! I have been so frightened, but I'm glad to find my husband all safe!"

Conduct of Bristol Jail in Prison.—The Windsor, Vt. Journal, says:—

We are informed by Col Harlow, the efficient Superintendent of the State Prison, that people are giving themselves a good deal of unnecessary trouble about "Bristol Jail." The distinguished gentleman alluded to is doing well, and has given comparatively little trouble to his keepers. He has not lost a day's work since his confinement, but is one of the best working hands in the prison. The stories about the flogging, chaining, &c., are without foundation.

The Rochester Knockings.—Those ridiculous and all but impious humbugs, the Rochester knocking girls, have recently undertaken to communicate the particulars of interviews between Drs. Parkman and Webster, in heaven, and their messages to their friends on earth. Their spirits are represented as enjoying each other's society, and rejoicing in the forgiveness of their sins, and in the belief that now the Rochester girls have taken the subject in hand, it will ultimately benefit mankind.

It is proposed to change the name of West Baton Rouge, the capital of Louisiana, and the former residence of the late President, to "Taylor," in honor of that distinguished soldier.

MARRIED.

In Spencer, Mass., 13th ult. by Rev. Levi Packard, James C. Hobbs, of the city of New York, and Miss Sarah D. Packard, eldest daughter of the officiating clergyman.

DIED.

In Providence, 15th inst. Charles W. Denney, aged 22 years.

In Bristol, 9th inst. Mr. John Macomber, aged 43 years.

In Warren, 6th inst. Mr. Ephraim French, aged 68 years.

At Rock Bar, California, July 23d, Leonard Walker, formerly of Berkeley; also in July, David Bowers, son of Capt. Jonathan Bowers, of Seabrook, aged 20 years.

In California, Capt. Eleazar H. Cushing, of Matipossett, aged 31 years.

At San, July 3d, on his return voyage from California, Mr. Benjamin Simmons, of Little Compton, aged 21 years; 2d officer of the S. S. Steamer.

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